

March '97

The Marquee

FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

AKT is in excellent health! We have just completed the Regional Professional Auditions on February 22nd -- with more than 15 companies in attendance and over 120 actors! This is becoming one of the significant auditions in the area -- hearkening back to the glory days of Wichita and John Holly!

We are looking forward to the largest AACT/FEST in almost 10 years -- 7 community theatres all presenting their best work for each other and all of us! The convention will not only be one of community, but one of celebration of the resurgence of AKT as an important state-wide institution.

We are looking forward to ASK AKT -- our own yellow pages - please be sure to fill out the surveys you have received in the mail! We'll pass out more at convention as well. When we've got your feedback, we'll compile the State of Kansas' own Theatre Yellow Pages!

We are looking forward to the results of Deb Wall's Children's Theatre survey -- if you haven't filled yours out -- get it in!!!

We are looking forward to "KANNECTIONS!" the June 20th-22nd co-conference that AKT is sponsoring with Kan-Arts and the Kansas Arts Commission. Our portion of that conference will be a



workshop on Historical Theatre Restoration and the renovation of found space for theatre! Watch for far more information at Convention! Hold the dates now!

We are going to get a computer and get "On Line!" Our Yellow Pages will eventually appear not only in print, but on a web page that we will develop with the help of our friends at Kan-Arts! Their workshop at "KANNECTIONS!" will be led by Talifero, an organization of interactive genius and web-site builders! This is an exciting time to be a part of AKT.

If you are not a member -- Join! If you've never been to convention -- Come! If you want to start your own theatre -- Participate! We are only as strong as our membership, and right now, that's pretty strong!

--Ric Averill

FROM KIM

It's been a whirlwind month here at the AKT office! First let me say what a pleasure it was to work with Heather Laird and her staff at Wright/Laird Casting in preparing for the AKT-Regional Professional Auditions! The response was overwhelming and we've had very positive feedback from producers and actors.

The professional auditions are being followed very quickly by the annual AKT AACT/FEST '97. I hope you will take some time to read the letters of welcome from this year's hosts, Mark Frank and David Sherlock and will join us in March!

In June we will be sponsoring a mini-conference with the assistance of the Kansas Arts Commission on historic theatres -- if you have experience in restoring found theatre space or know an architect who has worked with theatres, please let us know!!

We'd love to have them on our panel!

Now, on to Convention '97 information!



This newsletter is funded with the assistance of the Kansas Arts Commission.

MARK FRANK**AACT/FEST CHAIR**

Hello to everyone involved in AACT/FEST 1997! my name is Mark Frank and I am proud to serve as Chairman for this year's festival. This year's AACT/FEST will be held at Independence Community College in the beautiful Inge Theatre. The Community Theatres presenting productions and competing are:

CHANUTE COMMUNITY THEATRE: *Uncommon Connections* by Eric Adler

TOPEKA CIVIC THEATRE: *Shadowlands* by William Nicholson

MANHATTAN CIVIC THEATRE: *Dining Room* by A.R. Gurney

THEATRE ATCHISON: *Voice of the Prairie* by John Olive

SALINA COMMUNITY THEATRE: *Eleemosynary* by Lee Blessing

BROWN GRAND PLAYERS: *First Lady Suite*

NEODESHA ARTS COUNCIL: *Laundry and Bourbon* by James McClure

The total length of each individual production, including introduction and time lapses between scenes, may not exceed 60 minutes. Each show will be adjudicated by judges who are all from Missouri. Our adjudicators this year are:

Doug Ford, President/Founder of THE NORTHLAND ACTORS ENSEMBLE.

Dr. Elizabeth Hill, Theatre Director from MAPLE WOODS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jerry Ginochio, Technical Director for SOUTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY.

Winners of the state level will continue on to compete in Regional level competition. It should be an exciting AACT/FEST AKT Festival. Bringing the community in theatre--the theatre in community to Kansas! I'll see you in the front row March 7-9!

DAVID SHERLOCK**AACT/FEST HOST**

We are looking forward to hosting the state AKT conference at Independence Community College. Many of you may have visited ICC in the past during the William Inge Festival held on our campus each April. Others may be making the trip to our campus and community for the first time. We are proud of our theatre facilities, our students, and our community support for the arts and look forward to sharing those with you.

It has been a challenge and a pleasure to work with the state AKT board in planning the conference, arranging workshop presenters, planning the production schedule and coordinating our North Central Accreditation self study. yet I wouldn't miss this opportunity to have AKT on our campus.

This will be an eventful, exciting conference with excellent workshops on a variety of topics as well as a really full slate of seven community theatre performances. Imagine hosting seven different theatre productions in one theatre space in less than 30 hours! With Mark Frank, Coffeyville Community College Theater Director, as the AACT/FEST '97 Chair, I know that you will see a smooth flow of productions.

If you have not yet made plans to attend this year's conference, please do so today!

AACT/FEST '97**PERFORMANCE BLOCKS**

Tickets will be sold for blocks of performances. Friday evening and Saturday afternoon blocks, each with two productions, are \$4.00 general admission. The Saturday afternoon block, with three shows, is \$5.00 general admission. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance at the ICC Theatre Box Office. Productions will be followed by an adjudication session.

FRIDAY EVENING

6:10 *VOICE OF THE PRAIRIE*

8:00 *SHADOW LANDS*

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

12:40 *Eleemosynary*

2:30 *Uncommon Connections*

4:20 *First Lady Suite*

SATURDAY EVENING

7:10 *Dining Room* (Scenes)

9:00 *Laundry and Bourbon*

On Friday, March 7, 1997, the William Inge Collection will be open for viewing in the Academic Building Library from 1-5:30 PM. The William Inge Collection includes movie posters, original manuscripts and Inge's personal library. Independence is Inge's boyhood home and he was an alumnus of ICC and the University of Kansas.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

The following awards are given by the Association of Kansas Theatre. If you have nominations, please mail or fax them to us no later than March 5:

KANSAS THEATRE HALL OF FAME
(lifetime achievement)

STEVEN B. CATHAY AWARD
(business or individual
contribution to the arts)

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
(theatre or individual
with unique program or
promise recognized)

SECONDARY ADMINISTRATOR AWARD
(administrative support
for theatre arts)

THEATRE TEACHER AWARD
(outstanding theatre
program or individual)

FORM:

Name of Nominee _____

Address _____

Telephone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Reason for nomination (attach letter) _____

Person nominating _____

Address _____

Telephone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

ASK AKT

We are putting together a directory of theatres, resource people within theatres, resources available from theatres and just about anything you want. Ultimately this will be similar to an expanded membership directory or "Yellow Pages" of theatre. In order to do this, we need your help. We will list members and member theatres within divisions, but we'd also like to list people by "what they do or what they can provide." Example:

Children's Theatre

Wall, Deb address, etc. SCT

Wichita Children's Theatre address, etc.

Design:

Naylor, Tony address, etc.

Reaney, Mark address, etc.

Improvisation Teachers

Frank, Mark address etc.

Oversize Props

Ringer, Delores address etc.

IN ORDER TO DO THIS, WE NEED YOU TO PROVIDE US WITH YOUR NEEDS -- WHAT YOU'D LIKE IN THE DIRECTORY, AND YOUR OFFERINGS -- WHAT YOU CAN GIVE, SHARE OR SELL. PLEASE FILL OUT BELOW.

FORM:

Your Name_____

Name of Theatre (if applicable)_____

Address_____

Telephone:_____Fax_____E-mail_____

RESOURCES:

What you have to offer, share, sell:_____

What you would like to find, buy, book:_____

(may use additional pages if necessary. Please be concise)

Association of Kansas Theatre
PO Box 1873
Lawrence, KS 66044

forwarding and address
correction requested

AACT/FEST WORKSHOPS**FRIDAY**

1:00 From Playwrighting Contest to Playfest: A How-to-Approach

Elizabeth Hill

OK, it's moving--now what do I do:

Castering Platforms & Revolves

Jerry Genochio

2:15 How to Start a Community Theatre Doug Ford

William Inge Festival Jill Warford

3:30 The Hollywood Comedy Connection Hoite Caston

Creative Directing Lola Wade

SATURDAY

9:00 How to Start a Community Theatre Doug Ford

Successful Dinner Theatre Production Roger and Allyson Moon

10:15 Children's Theatre Symposium Deb Wall

Creative Directing Lola Wade

Tour of Historic Booth Theatre meet in Goheen Lobby

11:30 From Playwrighting Contest to Playfest: A How-to-Approach

Elizabeth Hill

Clowning for Young and Old Harkey the Clown

Historic Theatres Luncheon and Meeting

SUNDAY

9:30 AKT OPEN BOARD MEETING

11:00 AWARDS BRUNCH

AKT THEATRE SEASONS
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

THE COLUMBIAN THEATRE MUSEUM AND ART CENTER

521 Lincoln Avenue

Wamego, KS 66547

1-800-899-1893

MARK TWAIN--ON TOUR!!

MARCH 21-23

MARTIN SEXTON

APRIL 5

BEST OF BROADWAY II

APRIL 11-13

APRIL 17-20

THE SECOND ANNUAL FLINT HILLS COWBOY FESTIVAL

MAY 9-11

SHIRLEY VALENTINE

JUNE 13

THE BARN PLAYERS

Performing at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School

12701 West 67th

Shawnee, Kansas

913-381-4004

CHAPTER TWO

JUNE 13-29

A PIECE OF MY HEART

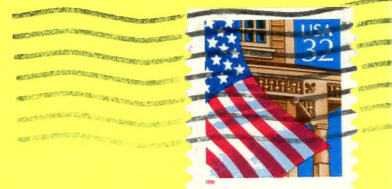
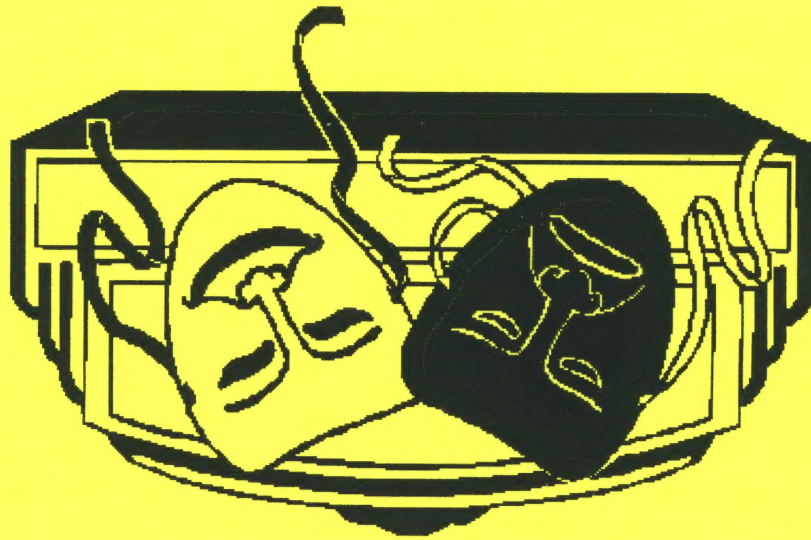
JULY 11-20

JACQUES BREL IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN PARIS

JULY 25-AUGUST 3

ASK AKT**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR:**

Lawrence Summer Youth Theatre is looking for a Technical Director for two shows, *Cabaret* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. This paid position includes designing for a black box theatre, supervising the building of sets with the junior/senior high youth, teaching youth to run all technical aspects of a production including lighting, sound, stage managing and set construction. Great opportunity for a young design/build artist. 4 weeks in June, 4 weeks in July. For more information, contact Ric Averill at (913) 842-6622 or Ellen at the Lawrence Arts Center (913) 843-2787.



**Association of
Kansas Theatre
PO Box 1873
Lawrence, KS 66044**

**Forwarding and Address
Correction Requested**

Jed Davis
2602 Louisiana
Lawrence KS 66046